

Alex Bloom

[The Arizona Republic](#)

Congressman Harry Mitchell, D-Tempe, visited North Scottsdale's Redfield Elementary School on Tuesday as part of his "Congress on your Corner" tour.

The congressman took questions from 60 third, fourth, and fifth graders in Redfield's self-contained gifted program.

"It's democracy in action. Their representative responding to their questions," said Scottsdale Unified School District Superintendent Gary Catalani, who accompanied the congressman on the visit.

Mitchell also toured the school, talked to parents and students at the playground and read the morning announcements. Before heading to Washington as a U.S. representative, the former Tempe mayor taught social studies at Tempe High School for 28 years. His wife, Marianne, taught at Scottsdale's Coronado High School, among other schools.

"It's exciting," said Redfield co-principal Jim Selgo. "The students and staff are happy to have him here and to have the opportunity to meet someone who is so directly involved with our government."